



**ARENA**  
ACADEMY

# Year 9 Reading Recommendations

## **NINETEENTH CENTURY CLASSICS**

*The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson  
*Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen  
*The Picture of Dorian Grey* by Oscar Wilde  
*The Sign of Four* by Arthur Conan Doyle

## **TWENTIETH CENTURY CLASSICS**

*Nineteen-Eighty-Four* by George Orwell  
*Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen  
*Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley  
*Brighton Rock* by Graham Greene  
*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

## **A NOTE TO PARENTS AND READERS**

These texts have been selected to challenge pupils and promote debate and discussion. Reading as many of these texts as possible will certainly help our students in their quest for the top grades in the subject. A wider depth and breadth of reading, and exposure to more complex vocabulary, forms and themes will benefit them not just in English but in all of their subjects. As you may expect from more difficult texts, some deal with adult themes. Here at Arena we feel our students have the maturity to cope with these concepts but please do get in touch if you would like to query any of the content before they begin reading them.

## **AWARD WINNERS**

*The Watsons Go to Birmingham- 1963* by Christopher Paul Curtis

*The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander

*The Lie Tree* by Frances Hardinge

*The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman

*Hattie Big Sky* by Kirby Larson

*One* by Sarah Crossan

*Monsters of Men* by Patrick Ness



## **MODERN NOVELS**

*Maladapted* by Richard Kurti  
*Are You There God? It's Me Margaret* by Judy Blume  
*The Call* by Peadar O'Guliin  
*Boy Proof* by Cecil Castellucci  
*The Amnesia Clinic* by James Scudamore  
*Thief* by Malorie Blackman  
*The Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro  
*The Mosquito Coast* by Paul Theroux

## **BAME**

*Noughts and Crosses* by Malorie Blackman  
*The Poet X* by Elizabeth Acevedo  
*Somebody Give this Heart a Pen* by Sophia Thakur  
*The Boxer* by Nikesh Shukla  
*A Very Large Expanse of Sea* by Tahereh Mafi

## **NON-FICTION**

*No One Is Too Small To Make a Difference* by Greta Thunberg  
*Glimmer of Hope How Tragedy Sparked a Movement*  
*The Secret Footballer* by Anonymous

## **LGBTQ+**

*Things A Bright Girl Can Do* by Sally Nicholls  
*Only The Ocean* by Natasha Carthew  
*Annex* by Rich Larson  
*Kings, Queens and In-Betweens* by Tanya Boteju